

***MaineCare Advisory Committee***

***Meeting Minutes***

January 3, 2023

10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Via Zoom

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Kathy Kilrain Del Rio called to order the regular meeting of the MaineCare Advisory Committee at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Kathy Kilrain del Rio conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Kathy Kilrain del Rio; Laurie Belden; Rachel Collamore; Laura Cordes; Jamie Cotnoir; Leo Delicata; Cathy Dionne; Gia Drew; Rachel Dyer; Cathy Hamilton; Sarah Lewis; Becca Matusovich; Vicki McCarty; Esther Miller; Dan Morin; Beth Pearce; Malory Shaughnessy; Sara Squires; Susan White; and David Winslow.

Department: Tia Bolduc; Erik Eisele; Amanda Lee; Jenny Patterson; Michelle Probert, and Molly Slotznick.

Guests: Therese Cahill; Elizabeth Cameron; Alex Carter; Kate Christiansen; Norma Desjardins; Al Durgin; Mikenzie Dwyer; Kate Ende; Mark Eves; Suzanne Farley; Kalie Hess; Brooke Holton; Vicki Jessup; Jillian Jolicoeur; Pete Plummer; Amanda Richards; Nicole St. Hilaire; and Bonnie Vaughan.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**a.) MAC Membership Appointments—Erik Eisele**

- Eric presented an overview of the new MAC membership appointments.
- Vickie McCarty suggested we develop a glossary of terms or a membership program to assist new MAC members as they are initiated to MaineCare processes.

**b.) MaineCare Updates With Michelle Probert**

- If you're not signed up to receive the Department's e-messages, please do so. Regular MaineCare updates are posted through the e-message system.
- Starting on April 1<sup>st</sup>, the continuous coverage requirement will end and redetermination of benefit eligibility will begin. MaineCare will have a year to conduct the redeterminations. We are hoping to establish a stakeholder forum to share updated information about what this means going forward.
- The Omnibus bill decouples the public health emergency from the enhanced match that states have been receiving for their Medicaid programs. The enhanced match will be phased out over time. There is no CMS guidance, at this point, about the new requirements. We will be communicating more in the coming months as we receive updates.

- OFI has contracted with a third party to bring on temporary help to work through client eligibility updates.
- Maximum flexibility on SNAP benefits will end with the Omnibus bill. Esther Miller noted that SNAP changes are effective sooner than MaineCare renewals. If you have questions specific to SNAP, feel free to contact Ian Miller, the SNAP Senior Program Manager at OFI at [ian.miller@maine.gov](mailto:ian.miller@maine.gov).
- Molly noted that EVV rules and regulations are now officially in place for home health and hospice services with dates of service starting 1/1/23.
- Molly reminded folks about the attending provider NPI requirement.
- The rounding rule has gone live, and we have issued an e-message with frequently asked questions about the rule. If there are providers who are facing barriers to implementing the new rounding rule, please reach out to Provider Relations so we can respond appropriately.

c.) **Discussion of Subcommittees**

- Malory Shaughnessy has offered to chair a provider sub-committee if the MAC is interested in putting one in place. Malory noted that there will be a variety of provider groups that will be represented, so representatives from MaineCare should be a part of the meetings depending upon what the discussion points are.
- Al noted the sub-committee meeting process should be a bilateral process. What does MaineCare want to know from the provider community? Ideally, the committee should be a gathering of providers with MaineCare present at the table so there can be meaningful conversation.
- Malory will schedule the first meeting.
- Kathy is willing to reconvene the member access committee, but she will need someone to volunteer to take over that group after the first meeting. Michelle noted it would be good to have the OMS Member Engagement Coordinator on board and have a larger conversation prior to establishing the member access committee.

d.) **Rate System Updates**

- Rate studies are in progress for a number of sections of policy including 13, 26, 28, 65 and 92.

**Rate subcommittee updates with Laura Cordes**

Laura noted a subcommittee meeting was not held in December.

Amanda presented a rate system timeline update. Of note:

- Adult family care homes is scheduled for a January 12, 2023 presentation.
- Behavioral health rates have been finalized.
- CBHC is in the procurement process.
- Crisis rate changes were noticed Friday.
- Nursing home and residential care facilities will have a kickoff meeting on 2/1.
- Rates for Section 23 have been presented to the public.
- The Rate Setting website is now.

e.) **Rulemaking/Waivers/SPA Packet—Jennifer Patterson**

- Dean Bugaj has moved into a new role as an associate director of OCF for Children’s and Behavioral Health.
- Jenny pointed out there are two open comment periods, both on waivers. One is for Section 19 and the other is for Section 20. The comment period is open now with the deadline being January 30<sup>th</sup>.

f.) **Communications Updates—Erik Eisele**

- Erik noted the Rate Setting website will be updated to include links to critical resources and important dates for any rate determination process.
- Erik noted the Department is developing marketing materials and video assets that will feature stories of MaineCare members and the impact that MaineCare has made in their lives. Some MAC members may be getting a form to nominate folks to participate in the campaign.
- MAC meetings are recorded now and will be shared on the web page.

g.) **Items From Guests.**

None

h.) **Wrap Up**

- The next MAC meeting will be held Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Kathy Kilrain Del Rio adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.